

Let's Get Acquainted

by Ruby Compton
Wave Columnist



Carol and Russel Shafto & Family

Carole Noel Petry was born on Christmas day, the first child of George and Claudette Gasse Petry. She was born and raised in Montreal, Canada, on the east bank of the St. Lawrence River. When Carole was 14, her brother, Pierre, was born, so she was practically raised as an only child.

Carole was brought up a Catholic and attended parochial schools. At the age of 16 she graduated from the Academie Suvaria, then on to Sir George Williams University of Montreal. She couldn't decide what subject to major in, so she did not go for a degree; however, she did have a strong interest in literature.

Carole went on to develop professionalism in dressmaking and tailoring. She spent a great deal of time in this occupation. At one time she had 85 seamstresses she had trained and then hired to do sewing in their homes. Carole's clothing label was "Carole Noel." She had outlets for these clothes in Boise, Idaho, Ogdensburg and Salt Lake. She ran this business for about five years. Some time before going into this project, Carole had joined the LDS Church in 1970, and had come to live in Idaho and Salt Lake. Besides the clothing business, she ran a fabric store.

Later on, Carole acquired a personnel service, in Salt Lake, which she operated for about two years.

Shortly after leaving this business, Carole met Russel L. Shafto. They were employees for the same company; she as office manager, and he as sales manager.

Russel Leon Shafto was born Dec. 1, 1952, in Casper, Wyoming, the third of four children born to Gordon M. and Lucile Caudron Shafto. His father was a government worker, and his mother was a homemaker. Russel grew up in the small town of Burns, Wyoming, and thoroughly loved the farm community. When he was 14 years old the family moved to Ogden, Utah.

While in high school, Russel became interested in drama and took part in the school plays. He became involved in writing stories and plays. This interest has been with him since he first learned he had talent in this occupation. He graduated from Ben Lomond High School in 1971, and went on to major in journalism at Weber State College. After one year, he was drafted. He spent two years in the army, most of it in Germany. While there he traveled all over Europe.

He came back home in 1974 and enrolled at the University of Utah, in Salt Lake, where he majored in civil engineering. Later he went into the sales field of industrial machine tools. He is still in this work.

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six and one half, and Erika six years old. Russel and Carole were married on Dec. 1, 1982.

The day they married was a busy one. Russel had to renew his driver's license. Once this was done, they decided to go for a long drive; they would go to Heber valley and see the house that had caught their interest in the advertisement agency.

They had no intention of closing the deal on that day, but once they actually saw how nice the place really was they decided to close the deal.

Russel could feel at ease here, and Carole was happy in the knowledge that she could make a charming home here, and there was enough room for the entire family to enjoy their hobbies.

Russel had a chance to start (from scratch) a machine tool company for Sigma Machine Co. in Salt Lake City. This was a good business opportunity for Russel; he took Carole as office manager and he became general manager of the project. The opportunity to buy this same machine tool company came, and the transfer of title was completed in May of 1982, and Russel changed the name of the business to the Double Eagle Machinery. In this, as in all business ventures, there was a risk involved but it paid off. He is doing well in this business and he still makes his living with it.

The Shafts moved to their home early in December of 1982. Carole had been so wrapped up in her work that she neglected church attendance, and Russel was a member of the American Baptist Church when they came to live in Daniel Ward. Soon after they were settled there, Brother's Bob Wrenn and Don Miller came to call on them. After gaining the permission to continue visiting the Shafts, they have been regular in their visits and have become good friends. Bill Barber, another neighbor, had a "hand" in helping Russel to understand the teachings of the LDS Church.

On March 17, 1984, Russel Leon Shafts was baptized into the LDS Church, called Mormon by many. Carole has renewed her activities in religious auxiliaries, and works in Relief Society and Sunday School. Russel is active as a ward missionary.

They are interested in raising riding horses - they have purebred Arabians and a yearling. They take loving care of them and love to ride them. They have purebred registered German Shepards, the female is about to litter soon, and they want to sell the puppies. They also raise rabbits, and have one pig named Wilbur, and a toy male poodle.

The Shafts said that they have never been happier; they have the time and place where they can enjoy their hobbies. Carole still enjoys her sewing, and working with ceramics and porcelain.

Russel Shafts & Family